

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

ROBERT BENTLEY
GOVERNOR



STATE OF ALABAMA

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC
AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

JIM BYARD, JR.
DIRECTOR

January 5, 2012

Ms. Cynthia T. Brown
Chief of the Section of Administration, Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

JAN 06 2012

Part of
Public Record

Re: Docket No. AB-1077X, *Wiregrass Central Railway, LLC. – Abandonment
Exemption – In Coffee County, AL.*

Dear Ms. Brown:

This request is filed on behalf of The Alabama Trails Commission, a government agency interested in the development of recreational trails, which is hereinafter referred to as 'proponent'. While not taking a position on the merits of this abandonment, proponent requests issuance of a Public Use Condition as well as a Certificate or Notice of Interim Trail Use rather than an outright abandonment authorization between milepost 820.0 and milepost 821.2 in Enterprise, Alabama.

A. Public Use Condition

Proponent requests the STB to find that this property is suitable for other public use, specifically trail use, and to place the following conditions on the abandonment:

1. An order prohibiting the carrier from disposing of the corridor, other than the tracks, ties and signal equipment, except of public use on reasonable terms. The justification for this condition is that the corridor would make an excellent recreational trail and conversion of the property to trail use is in accordance with state and local plans. The time period sought is 180 days from the effective date of the abandonment authorization. Proponent needs this much time because we have not had an opportunity to complete a detailed trail plan or commence negotiations with the carrier.
2. An order barring removal or destruction of potential trail-related structures such as bridges, trestles, culverts and tunnels. The justification for this condition is that these structures have considerable value for recreational trail purposes. The time period requested is 180 days from the effective date of the abandonment authorization for the same reason as indicated above.

FILING FEE WAIVER

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